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August 11, 2017

Via U.S. Postal Service/ Certified Mail/Email (kphilbert@fec.gov)

Federal Election Commission

999 E St NW

Washington, DC 20463

Attn: Kamau Philbert, Esq.

RE: 2014 Malone Campaign

FEC MUR 6858

Dear Mr. Philbert:

Please accept this as a letter to the Office of the General Counsel requesting conciliation in line with 11C.F.R. §111.18(d).

Thank you again for providing the requested materials. I spoke with Mr. Shawn Michael Malone (the "Candidate") in discussing this, as for both of us it has been some time since addressing the matter.

On the date in question, December 26, 2013, an event took place at the Saint Croix racetrack. This was not a campaign event, but a public one at which candidates for the 2014 election cycle were permitted to attend and set up promotional tents. While the candidate was not in attendance at the event, his campaign manager was there to set up a promotional tent for the Candidate. The gentlemen from the prison were painting in the area of the horse track at which the event was held. Saint Croix being a small place, several of the prisoners knew the candidate's campaign

manager, Mr. Marcellino Ventura, and volunteered themselves to assist in setting up the tent. The prisoners were not asked to help out in setting up the tent, nor were they arranged to be there for that purpose. The picture used as evidence is highly misleading. Prisoners did help set up the tent, but not at cost to the taxpayer, and not in any demonstrable, tangible contribution distinct from their primary purpose of attendance in cleaning the racetrack, and of no impact on public resources. Upon information and belief, the firehouse the prisoners were sent to paint was painted. While it is hard to locate online materials related to this matter, the following is cited to:

<http://www.realtalkusvi.com/home/inmategate>

"Bureau of Corrections Director Julius Wilson, confirmed that the inmates were signed out 'to paint the firehouse'" (referencing same photo complainant used).

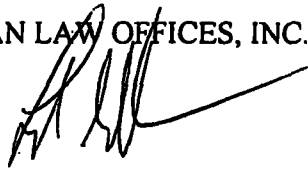
In short:

Mr. Marcellino Ventura is described in the complaint as accompanying the inmates working to clean the racetrack. That is not true. Each arrived for separate purposes, but community familiarity brought them together, not any direction by the then candidate or him causing any action from the Legislature of the Virgin Islands. The prisoners involved were there for a separate purpose, but offered to assist Mr. Ventura in setting up the tent. Outside of the photo, no evidence exists that any relationship or use of resources exists, or that the assistance was initiated by the Malone Campaign or the Candidate. We do not believe that this would result in an in-kind contribution in the form of involuntary personal services of prison inmates. Quite the opposite, incarcerated members of the community, while on a work detail, offered their support, out of politeness to someone they knew, the same as they could choose to do or not do if they were not incarcerated. Unfortunately, given the time lapsed since the complaint was filed, I do not have access to other materials or quotes as the archives for the local papers were not maintained sufficiently far back.

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We therefore propose entering into a conciliation, acknowledging that prisoners did in fact assist in erecting a campaign tent, but that such occurred in mistake and not deliberately.

Sincerely,
GOLDMAN LAW OFFICES, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Goldman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Leigh F. Goldman, Esq.

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